

ORDER OF SERVICE

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 15th, 2024

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Announcements & Affirmation of Community

Joys and Concerns

Prelude "It Came Upon A Midnight Clear"
Arranged by Adrian Carr from the album
Zen Christmas

Silent Reflection Time

Choral Introit "Adoro te Devote" Verse 1&2
Attributed to São Tomás de Aquino, ca.

Call to Worship

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon the holy name of the most high God.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

Proclaim the mercy of the One who comes as one of us.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

Trust and do not be afraid.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

With joy you will draw water from the wells of peace.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation. Hallelujah! Amen.

"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"

Text by Wayne Wold based on a Yiddish Folk Song

Lighting the Advent Wreath Candles

Victoria, Grace, & Gabe Duley

***Hymn** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" #82

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

The lord is near. In your presence, Holy God, we confess that we need repentance. We have broken your commandments against

idolatry. We do not live in peace with your creation or your people. We have not trusted your word, and we are afraid. Forgive us, restore us, and turn our shame into praise, for the sake of the One who proclaims the good news and for the sake of all the world. Amen. (**Silent Prayer**)

Assurance of Pardon

***Gloria Patri** #581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination

First Reading **Philippians 4:4-9** pg. 198

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Choral Anthem "An Advent Alleluia"
by Douglas Wagner

Second Reading **Luke 3:7-18** pg. 60

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "John and Jesus's Messages" Rev. Tim Luoma

Silent Reflection Time

***Hymn** "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!" #804

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

Offertory Invitation

Offertory "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"
German Carol

***Doxology** #606
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication**
Gracious God, in gratitude for all that you have given us, we bring our tithes, offerings, and labor to help feed a world hungry for healing and hope; for the sake of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer Response "Alleluia"
Musical Setting by Jacques Berthier

***Hymn** "Rejoice, The Lord is King!" #363

Special Congregational Meeting

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response** "You Shall Go Out With Joy"
Text by Steffi Geiser Rubin,
Music by Stuart Dauermann

Postlude

All are asked to remain seated for the postlude.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF
PASTOR: Rev. Dr. Timothy J. Luoma
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Dr. Adrian Carr
CLERK OF SESSION: Judy Bunnell
MODERATOR OF DEACONS: Connie Harrica
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Sadie Prinsen
SEXTON: Sally Ann Blow

Happy Birthday!

Rebecca Amorelli	12/16	Kristine Cantwell	12/18
Alexander Wilson	12/21	Douglas Walker	12/27
Sally McSweeney	12/27	Judith Judge	12/28
Elizabeth Lawless	12/29	Shelley Payson	1/2

Advent Decorations

A special thank you to Bill and Kerry Haley at the Haley Christmas Tree Farm for providing the tree and the wreaths in the Sanctuary and the wreaths on the front door of the church. Additional thanks to the people who decorated the sanctuary under the able leadership of Sally Meisenheimer, including Rob Meisenheimer, Lynn Mulholland, Mark Malchoff, and Terry Mahoney. The Sanctuary looks very festive with all their efforts.

2024 Annual Reports

We are asking that annual reports on the 2024 work and activities of the committees, councils and organizations of the church be submitted to the church office no later than Friday, January 9th, 2025. If you are the chairperson of a council or committee, please submit yours as soon as possible via an email attachment to office@presbyplatt.org. The earlier the better!

Community Bake Sale

We thank everyone who supported the bake sale, and soup and quiche sale on Saturday, December 7th. Today, in Fellowship Hall, after worship will be your last opportunity to purchase remaining bake sale items, and soups and quiche. In addition to baked goods which include homemade fudge, cookies and a small selection of breads, muffins and cakes, there are some jams and bottles of raspberry vinegar. Available soups include (in limited numbers): Carrot & Ginger(vegan), Lentil and Smoked Apple & Sage Sausage (vegan), Creamy Tomato with Basil, Harvest Squash, and Sausage White Bean. There are three broccoli quiche and one crabmeat quiche available at this writing. Unfortunately for chili lovers, all of the chilis are sold out (including the 43 pints of Trevor's chili!).
-Jennie Booth & Judy Bunnell

First Presbyterian Church of Plattsburgh

**Worship Christ
Teach Faith
Practice Love**

**If you are visiting, please feel welcome to come to Fellowship Hall,
following the service.**

Visit us at:

www.firstchurchplattsburgh.org

Follow us on Facebook:

First Presbyterian Church of Plattsburgh NY

PRAYER FAMILIES FOR THE WEEK of December 15th, 2024

Peter Gonyo
Gaye Grabowski
Bill, Kerry, Luke, & Jacob Haley
Tim & Donna Hanrahan

PRAYER CONCERNS

Matt Burgin and family
Barbara Thompson
Bob Svenson
Peg and Jack Myers
John Mazur

This Sunday we thank:

WORSHIP LEADER: Jim Snook
USHERS: Lynn Mulholland & Linda Gonyo
FELLOWSHIP: Julie Brunell & Dana Jeweler
ZOOM COORDINATOR: Jennie Booth

Worship Leaders

Dec 22- Jennie Booth
Dec 24- Sally Meisenheimer
Dec 29- Stuart Voss

Ushers

Dec 22-
Dec 24-
Dec 29-

Fellowship Time

Dec 22-The Pomerance Family
Dec 29-

Zoom Coordinators

Dec 22- Jim Snook
Dec 24- Carl Payne
Dec 29- Jennie Booth

Local Mission Christmas Tree Ornament Project

Thank you to all who took colored ornament tags to help in the Local Mission Council project to provide Christmas gifts to children served by the Department of Social Services. Gifts are to be returned by Tuesday, December 17th. Today they may be left by the tree in Fellowship Hall or in the Memorial Room. On Monday and Tuesday, please leave them in the Memorial Room or on the bench by the church office. We must have the gifts in hand absolutely *no later than 10:30 am* Wednesday- someone from Local Mission Council will be at the church beginning at 9 am that morning. We will be delivering the gifts to Social Services Wednesday afternoon.

Call for a Special Congregational Meeting

A Special Congregational Meeting is called for *today*, Sunday, December 15th, 2024 immediately after the last hymn of the 10 am worship service with in-person and Zoom-attendee participation for the purposes of receiving and acting on the report of 2024 Nominating Committee with recommendations to fill vacancies on Session and the Board of Deacons, and electing congregation members to the 2025 Nominating Committee.

Winter Solstice Yoga

We will be hosting the second Winter Solstice Yoga Class with Heather Bennett *tomorrow*, December 16th at 5pm in Fellowship Hall. Come celebrate the season of love, light, and peace with us with yoga!

Caroling

We will be caroling on Friday, December 20th, starting around 5pm and ending with a reception at church. Everyone can bring a happy voice and treat to share. For more information, contact Benjamin at Pomerance.benjamin58@gmail.com.

The office will be closed from December 24th to the 26th in observance of Christmas. Next week, the office will only be open on Monday, December 23rd from 1pm to 4pm.

Sunday, Dec 15:	9:00 am	Adult Church School
	9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Congregational Meeting

Monday, Dec 16:	5:00 pm	Winter Solstice Yoga, Pt. 2
	6:00 pm	Session

Tuesday, Dec 17:	9:30 am	Staff Meeting
	10:30 am	Bible Study
	Noon	AA Meeting

Deadline for Pulse Submissions & Ornament Tree Project

Wednesday, Dec 18:	1:30 pm	Parkinsons Support Group
	7:00pm	Plattsburgh Table Tennis

Deadline for Poinsettia and Wreath Orders

Thursday, Dec 19:	9:15 am	Quilting Group
	Noon	AA Meeting
	6:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal

Friday, Dec 20: 5:00 pm Caroling

Sunday, Dec 22:	9:00 am	Adult Church School
	9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	Worship Service